

CLAIMS

1. A communication terminal for communicating with another communication terminal via telephone or electronic mail, the communication terminal comprising:

a communication section operable to receive, from another communication terminal, personal information including at least a telephone number or electronic mail address of the other communication terminal and a presentation attribute that indicates whether presentation of the personal information to a third party is permitted;

a personal information storage section operable to store the personal information and presentation attribute acquired from the other communication terminal received by the communication section;

a personal information determination section operable to determine whether presentation of the personal information stored in the personal information storage section to the third party is permitted based on the presentation attribute; and

a personal information presentation section operable to present, to the third party via the communication section, only personal information that has been determined by the personal information determination section to be permitted to be presented to the third party, the personal information having been acquired from the other communication terminal.

2. The communication terminal according to claim 1, wherein the personal information determination section allows a display section included in the communication terminal to display the telephone number or electronic mail address acquired from the other communication terminal, only when the presentation attribute indicates that presentation is permitted.

3. The communication terminal according to claim 1, wherein,

the personal information storage section is further operable to store a presentation attribute of own personal information that has been passed to another communication terminal, and

when personal information of the other communication terminal is displayed, the presentation attribute of the own personal information that has been passed to the other communication terminal is displayed together.

4. The communication terminal according to claim 3, wherein,

the own personal information includes an expiration time of the own personal information, and

the communication terminal further comprises a personal information update section which is operable to check whether the expiration time of the own personal information that has been passed

to the other communication terminal has expired and is operable to notify a user of the communication terminal that the expiration time of the own personal information that has been passed to the other communication terminal has expired.

5

5. The communication terminal according to claim 1, wherein,

the personal information acquired from the other communication terminal includes an expiration time of the personal information, and

the communication terminal further comprises a personal information update section operable to place restrictions on placing a telephone call or transmitting an electronic mail by using the personal information acquired from the other communication terminal if the expiration time of the personal information has expired.

6. The communication terminal according to claim 5, wherein the personal information update section is operable to notify a user of the communication terminal that the expiration time of the personal information acquired from the other communication terminal has expired and resulted in restrictions being placed on the personal information.

7. The communication terminal according to claim 5, wherein

the personal information update section is operable to delete, from the personal information storage section, personal information whose expiration time has expired.

5 8. The communication terminal according to claim 1, wherein the communication section transmits or receives the personal information and the presentation attribute by utilizing short-distance radio communication, without employing a radio communication network through which a telephone conversation is
10 carried out or an electronic mail is transmitted or received.

 9. The communication terminal according to claim 1, wherein the communication section transmits or receives the personal information and the presentation attribute by utilizing a radio
15 communication network through which a telephone conversation is carried out or an electronic mail is transmitted or received.

 10. A method for placing restrictions on disclosure of information employed by a communication terminal which
20 communicates with another communication terminal via telephone or electronic mail, the method comprising the steps of:

 receiving, from another communication terminal, personal information including at least a telephone number or electronic mail address of the other communication terminal and a presentation
25 attribute that indicates whether presentation of the personal

information to a third party is permitted;

storing the received personal information and presentation attribute acquired from the other communication terminal;

determining whether presentation of the stored personal
5 information to the third party is permitted based on the presentation attribute; and

presenting to the third party only personal information that has been determined in the determining step to be permitted to be presented to the third party.

10

11. A program to be executed by a communication terminal which communicates with another communication terminal via telephone or electronic mail, for placing restrictions on disclosure of information, the program causing execution of the
15 steps of:

receiving, from another communication terminal, personal information including at least a telephone number or electronic mail address of the other communication terminal and a presentation attribute that indicates whether presentation of the personal
20 information to a third party is permitted;

storing the received personal information and presentation attribute acquired from the other communication terminal;

determining whether presentation of the stored personal information to the third party is permitted based on the
25 presentation attribute; and

presenting to the third party only personal information that has been determined in the determining step to be permitted to be presented to the third party.

5 12. A recording medium having recorded thereon a program to be executed by a communication terminal which communicates with another communication terminal via telephone or electronic mail, the program causing execution of the steps of:

 receiving, from another communication terminal, personal
10 information including at least a telephone number or electronic mail address of the other communication terminal and a presentation attribute that indicates whether presentation of the personal information to a third party is permitted;

 storing the received personal information and presentation
15 attribute acquired from the other communication terminal;

 determining whether presentation of the stored personal information to the third party is permitted based on the presentation attribute; and

 presenting to the third party only personal information that
20 has been determined in the determining step to be permitted to be presented to the third party.